



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Water Department

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

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**FOUR CITY OF SAN DIEGO WATER DEPARTMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS  
PROJECTS RECOGNIZED BY LOCAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

*The Earl Thomas Reservoir, Miramar Early Start Improvements Phase II, Otay Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project Earn Awards, and the Canyonside Reclaimed Water Pump Station*

**San Diego, CA** – The City of San Diego Water Department today announced that four of its Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) were selected to receive awards by local professional associations. The San Diego International Chapter of the American Concrete Institute (ACI) selected the Earl Thomas Reservoir to receive the “Water Resources” award. In addition, the San Diego section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) recognized the Miramar Early Start Improvements Phase II as “Outstanding Civil Engineering Project,” the Otay Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project with an “Award of Excellence,” and the Canyonside Reclaimed Water Pump Station as an “Honorable Mention.”

“To receive these awards is a tribute to the outstanding teamwork of the staff, design consultants and contractors who helped in the completion of these successful projects,” said Acting Water Department Director Charles Yackly. “These four projects are a critical part of our Capital Improvements Program to improve the City’s water system and help ensure a reliable water supply, and we are pleased that they have been honored with these awards,” Yackly stated.

The \$32 million, Earl Thomas Reservoir project started in November 2002 and involved the demolition and excavation of a 50-year old reinforced-concrete reservoir. Construction for a new storage tank was completed in November 2004 to represent the largest, pre-stressed concrete

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drinking water reservoir in the world. Located at the Alvarado Water Treatment Plant next to Lake Murray, the reservoir holds 35 million gallons of potable water and helps to meet the demand of more than 600,000 city residents served by this facility.

The Miramar Early Start Improvements Phase II Project involved mainly construction of new pipelines as well as improvements outside the premises of the Miramar Water Treatment Plant. This work was done to precede and prepare for the next phases of the plant's upgrade and expansion project, which will increase the capacity from 140 mgd to 215 mgd. The \$17 million project started in September 2002 and was completed in February 2005.

The \$17.9 million Otay Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project involved the construction of two 7 million gallon treated water storage reservoirs, or clearwells. These clearwells, made of pre-stressed concrete, were built on-site at the plant to provide more operational efficiency and maintenance flexibility. Placement of these clearwells, required the excavation of 87,000 cubic yards of dirt and the construction of a 60-foot retaining wall.

The Canyonside Reclaimed Water Pump Station project provided for a new underground facility that will boost the existing water supply system, giving the City the flexibility to move 3 mgd of reclaimed water from the North City Water Reclamation Plant into the northern region of San Diego. This \$1.9 million project also involved related operational evaluations and analyses, the installation of related pump station equipment, and enhancements to the entrance of Canyonside Community Park at which it was built.

The Earl Thomas Reservoir contractor was DYK Incorporated. The Miramar Early Start Improvements Phase II Project was contracted to Archer Western Contractors. The Otay Water Treatment Plant clearwells were built by DYK Incorporated and the general contractor was Gateway Pacific Contractors, Inc. Finally, the Canyonside Reclaimed Water Booster Pump Station was built by W.M. Lyles Co. The Earl Thomas Reservoir project will receive its award at the ACI Annual Awards Banquet on Friday, May 5, 2006 at the Shelter Pointe Hotel and Marina. The three other CIP projects will be presented with their awards at the ASCE Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, May 6, 2006 at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort.

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All three projects are part of the Water Department's citywide Capital Improvements Program to improve the infrastructure throughout the City's water system, including pipelines, water pump stations, reservoirs, and treatment plants. The replacement, upgrade and expansion of these various parts will help ensure a safe and reliable water supply. For general questions on the Water Department Capital Improvements Program, please call the 24-hour Public Information Line at (619) 533-4679 or go to [www.sandiego.gov/water](http://www.sandiego.gov/water).

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